



BROAD CHANNEL CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the Broad Channel Civic Association
April 2019

Vol. 32 No. 4

CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

***** VFW Hall – Shad Creek Road – 7:00 PM *****

***** April 25, 2019 *****

**This issue of the Newsletter is sponsored by
a donor who wishes to remain anonymous.**

President's Message

The April Civic meeting will be held on Thursday, April 25th at 7PM at the VFW Hall.

Spring is here and hopefully the warm weather will be here soon as well. April 15th is the start of the Striped Bass season and the bunker are already moving into the Bay. This past winter saw a tremendous amount of seals in the Bay on an almost daily basis. After years of hard work, to get the water quality issues at the waste treatment plants addressed and the marsh loss restoration projects underway, the waters of the Bay are cleaner than ever before! We are pleased to work with Councilman Constandide (Astoria) and **Councilman Ulrich** to support a new bill to identify a City agency that will be responsible for removing Marine Debris, such as old abandoned boats, from the Bay. Currently no agency will actually address this issue and it is severely needed as the coastlines and marsh islands have large marine debris items in need of removal that are eyesores and pose a threat to the environment.

Speaking about the Bay - if you would like to get personally involved in helping out or bring your children out to experience a day of wetland planting on June 8th and June 9th, we will be conducting volunteer planting of wetlands down at the site of the recently constructed Sunset Cove Park. If interested come down to the American Ballfields Parking lot at 12 noon and there will be representatives from NYC Parks and the American Littoral Society, as well as the Jamaica Bay Ecowatcher's organizing this effort. This is a great way to teach the next generation the importance of the Environment and our Bay.

Street Raising Phase 2 - West 14th through West 19th Roads will go out for bid in mid-June. This date had gotten pushed back slightly but the Civic Association has been in contact with the design firm and they confirm that they will have the contract out for bid no later than mid-June.

The New York Rising Projects continues to be delayed. As a result Assemblywoman Amato and Senator Addabbo along with Dan Brown from the borough president's office have reached out to the NY Rising Board, which runs the entire program, for a sit down meeting in order for the Civic Association to express their concerns and get an update. We will report back to the town as soon as we have met with the board.

There will be a Jamaica Bay Task Force meeting at the Wildlife Refuge on May 9th at 6:30PM with speakers from NYS DEC, Army Corps of Engineers, New York State Parks, NY/NJ Port Authority, and the Jamaica Bay Ecowatcher's. All will be giving updates on various issues affecting Jamaica Bay. Will be a great night to find out what is going on in the Bay and all are invited to come down and get up to speed.

BROAD CHANNEL BEAUTIFICATION DAY -Judy Zaczkiwicz has come out of retirement and will be once again coordinating Broad Channel Beautification day for the center mall. The date for the beautification of the center mall and the tree pits on the center mall is scheduled for May 11th with a rain date of May 18th. Hope all available residents will come out and help Judy with this great effort to beautify the center mall and the main thoroughfare through our town. The results are always very impressive and really make the town look great!!

The Civic Association is in the process of creating a town email notification list for matters of interest, such as the monthly newsletter, or of concern (i.e.: crime events). We have put out a notice to date on the Broad Channel Civic Facebook site and have had great response. If anyone is interested in being added to the list, submit an email to broadchannelcivic@gmail.com or send your email to the Facebook site (Broad Channel Civic) and we will add you to the list.

Quote of the Month-- “Until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains unawakened.” –Anatole France

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Mundy Jr.



**The Flag will fly in May for
Edward R. Connolly,
US Army, Vietnam**

BROAD CHANNEL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND AMBULANCE CORP.

After undergoing a long overdue renovation and overhaul the BCVFD would like to invite all our neighbors to come down and see what we have accomplished at the firehouse. The building has been given a major facelift and we were able to correct all our storm damages from Sandy and the other storms, Nor'easters, and Hurricanes that our building endured during its 109 year history.

Schedule of events for the open house weekend

Saturday April 27th

- 10:00AM - Open doors
- 10:15AM - Bouncy Houses open, target practice for juveniles
- 11:00AM - Target Practice for future Firefighters
- 12:00PM - Hurst Drill Demonstration
- 1:00PM - Hands On CPR Class
- 2:00PM - Visit with our Explorers
- 4:00PM - Days Events Conclude

Sunday April 28th

- 10:00AM - Open Doors
- 10:15AM - Bouncy Houses open, target practice for juveniles
- 11:00AM - Dr. Daniel Riegel, DR Norman Riegel Cardiovascular Heath
- 11:30AM - Target Practice for future Firefighters
- 12:00PM - EMS Drill and Demonstration
- 1:00PM - Hands On CPR
- 2:00PM - Visit with our Firefighters and EMTs
- 4:00PM - Event Ends

Events are planned for adults and children, come and meet our Junior Department, BSA Explorer's Post 6026 and meet our current group of members. As our letter to the town stated, we are very much in need of membership. Now is the time to come down and see if you can help. We look forward to see you all at the Firehouse.

Dan McIntyre, Chief, BCVFD



**Broad Channel Civic Association
Broad Channel, NY 11693**

- President ----- Dan Mundy Jr.
- Vice President ----- James Harper
- Treasurer ----- Tracey Harper
- Recording Secretary ----- Kathleen Lawless
- Corresponding Secretary ---- Kat Lawless
- Sergeant at Arms ----- Leo Chevanne
- Trustees ----- Dan Mundy Sr.,
John McCambridge Jr., Dan McIntyre
- Editor in Chief ----- Natalie Grant
najomawi@gmail.com

ST. VIRGILIUS / ST. CAMILLUS

ST. VIRGILIUS BUILDING UPDATE: Progress continues on the new PARISH CENTER at St. Virgilius. Plans have been submitted to the City and review is underway.

Bids are being accepted. Demolition and Construction is scheduled to begin before the end of the year and completion is expected by December, 2020. During construction:

- 1) Saturday evening (4PM) and Sunday morning (10AM) Masses will continue to be celebrated in St. Virgilius Church. They do NOT expect to work on weekends.
- 2) We are exploring a location for the Weekday Morning Mass (Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday) at 8AM since work will be going on at that time.
- 3) Funeral Masses will be celebrated at ST. CAMILLUS CHURCH.
- 4) BAPTISMS will be celebrated at ST. VIRGILIUS CHURCH on the THIRD SATURDAY of each month.
- 5) RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES will take place in the coming year (2019-2020) at ST. CAMILLUS SITE.

A presentation will be made on the design of the PARISH CENTER by Tobin-Parnes before demolition. The date has not yet been set.

CONGRATULATIONS to the families and children who will receive **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** in May on Saturday, May 4th at St. Camillus or May 11th at St. Virgilius.

EASTCOAST PRO WRESTING comes to Springman Hall at St. Camillus on Saturday, April 27th at 7:30PM. Tickets are \$15 in Advance & \$20 at the Door. Call Jimmy Smallman at 917-929-7326.

GLIMPSE OF THE PAST

Speech given by Michael Forbes at the blessing and dedication of St. Virgilius Church, 192_?. The speech was sent by former resident Adele Forbes Weitzman.

.....
This condition continued for three years, until our present Pastor came to take charge of St. Rose of Lima Church and who, on making the rounds of his parish, came to the Channel and saw the condition of the chapel, called a meeting and promised to erect a proper church for the people in the fall. Speaking on behalf of the people of the Channel, I told him that we would stand behind him in his efforts. The following Spring, thanks be to God, I had the pleasure of seeing the present edifice, only now much enlarged, erected on the island, and which has since been moved to the site on which it now stands and the people did not falter in their promise. Later, a Rectory and Hall were erected and now Father wants to erect a school and again the people will stand behind him and back him up in the project.

And may it please your Lordship, I was often afraid that his health would break down, for the pace set by the Father when he formed a purpose until its completion was terrific. I have many times pleaded with him to take it easier, as I, in a measure was responsible for his being here at the Channel, always beseeching him to come over, as he could do so much good here, where there was so much to be done, and to make the sacrifice, so you see I wanted to see no bad results. Therefore, every time that I look at the cross on its steeple and think of my Utopian dream of years ago which has proved a tangible reality, I give thanks to God who sent to this island Father Bennett who made that dream come true, and I am content and leave the rest to God.

Material for the next newsletter is due by May 10th.